

AUG 02 2005

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE: August 2, 2005

MATTER NUMBER: 01030 10105485

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U.S. Serial No. 09/896,032

RE: HUBR 1067.3 DIV

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 11

PAGE:

MESSAGE:

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PAGE 1/11 * RCVD AT 8/2/2005 12:37:07 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/32 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:212 318 3400 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-08

AUG 02 2005

HUBR 1067.3 DIV (10105485)

CERTIFICATE OF FAXING
37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being FACSIMILED to Examiner Timothy BROWN at 571 273-0773 and 571 273-8300 at the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

8/2/05

Date

Name: Fani Malkouzakis

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Christoph SEIDEL et al.
Serial No : 09/896,032
Filed : June 29, 2001
For : METHOD FOR DETERMINING EARLY HCV
SEROCONVERSION
Art Unit : 1648
Examiner : Timothy M. BROWN

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is information which is relevant to the current rejection of the patent application under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

In the grandparent of the subject application, co-inventor Ursula-Henrike Wienhues-Thelen submitted a declaration and this is resubmitted here.

In example 1 of the declaration, cysteine residues were modified by iodoacetate, and tested for immunogenicity. Note the modified molecules were more immunogenic.

In example 2, cysteine was replaced by serine. The serine substituted molecules were more active immunologically.

In example 3, it is shown that when the cysteine residues of the antigen are modified, there are fewer releasable sulfhydryl residues.

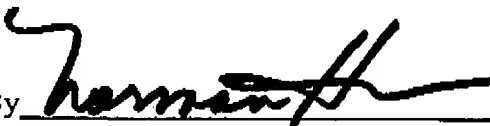
HUBR 1067.3 DIV (10105485)

Were a prima facie case of lack of enablement established and this is not believed to be the case - these data are believed sufficient to overcome it.

Allowance of the application is believed proper and is urged.

Respectfully submitted,

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

By 

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